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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

USA National Stage Patent Application
PCT/EP01/04270 filed April 14, 2001

Rainer Arndt, et al

Serial No.: 10/018,631

First Submission of National Stage Requirements
Filed: December 18, 2001

INSULATING ELEMENT

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

A copy of an International Search Report (2 pages in English PCT/ISA/210) by the EPO European Patent Office as the international searching authority from the international application and its listed 3 references have been have transmitted to the USA PTO as the National Stage office (see PCT/IB/308) as acknowledged as received by the "Notification of missing Requirements Under 35 USC 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)" dated 2/5/02. Another copy of the International Search Report in English 2 pages is submitted herewith.

A further reference, namely German Patent Application 198 48 679 disclosed and discussed on page 1 of the specification is being submitted herewith.

A PTO-1449 form was filed on December 18, 2001 and lists all of the 3 references in the International Search Report, and a copy of the PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith adding the date to one of the references as well as the further reference German Patent Application 198 48 679.

The US patent and one of the European references are in English, as well as the International Search Report, pointing out the relevance in English, and the German reference is disclosed and discussed in the specification in English on page 1.

A translation of the foreign language references are not available to the undersigned.


In the International Search Report the references listed with an A mean these references define the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance with respect to the listed claims. The reference listed in category X means this document is of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or can not be considered to involve an

inventive step when the document is taken alone with respect to
the listed claim

This submission meets the requirements of 37 CFR §1.56, 1.97 and
1.98(a) and MPEP 609.

Respectfully submitted

Rainer Arndt, et al

by: 
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the accompanying Information Disclosure
Statement, PTO-1449 form and 1 reference are being deposited with
the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an
envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 8, 2002.

Dated: April 8, 2002


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(Use several sheets if necessary)

Doctor Number (Optional)

23710N2PCT/US

Application Number

PC10/018,6310

Applicant

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Filing Date

Group Art Unit

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.